

Workforce & Career Development Division

Director's Corner

The month of October wasn't easy for staff of the Employment Security Department. We saw many of our colleagues move to other positions, or leave the agency entirely, as a result in the latest reduction in force (RIF). I would like to commend everyone for stepping up during this tough time, ensuring important work continued and customers got the great service they need and expect. I would like to welcome those of you who are new to your positions, and thank staff who have welcomed their new colleagues and adjusted to different work loads.

As we move forward into November, we continue to streamline our services and processes so that our job seekers and employers continue to get what they need. I am pleased to welcome Esther Ayers into WCDD Central Office as our new Lean management analyst. She is a Lean/Six Sigma Black Belt, a certified Project Management Professional (PMP), and excellent Lean trainer and event facilitator. She brings recent experience as a Business Solutions Specialist at WorkSource Snohomish County. Esther will be traveling throughout the state, visiting offices and helping to further Lean efforts across the WorkSource system. She is excited about Lean and happy to assist with any questions you may have. You can e-mail her at ELayers@esd.wa.gov.

~Sandy Miller

Mandatory Training Scheduled Ahead of Upcoming STU Deployment

In preparation for the deployment of the SKIES Technology Upgrade (STU) project in November, Joanie Linder, the state's SKIES Lead Trainer, will be holding MANDATORY WebEx orientation sessions for SKIES trainers during the week of November 3rd. Trainers can choose from seven scheduled sessions, and will be expected to train local area SKIES users the week of November 10th in preparation for the deployment on Monday, November 17th.

Governor Inslee Provides Direction for WIOA Implementation

Governor Inslee designated the Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTECB) as the state's Workforce Development Board required by the Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA) and provided the workforce development system a clear "North Star" to guide our work as we begin WIOA implementation. Below are the three fundamental goals we must direct our focus toward:

- Help more people find and keep jobs that lead to economic self-sufficiency, with a focus on disadvantaged populations.
- Close skill gaps for employers, with a focus on in-demand industry sectors and occupations.
- Work together as a single, seamless team to make this happen.

The Employment Security Department is committed to working together with all our partners in the workforce system to make sure we achieve the Governor's goals, and we'll seek our staff's expert opinions and communicate regularly to ensure continuous improvement for the customers we serve.

You can read the Governor's [full letter](#) on the WTECB website.

Kathy DiJulio Joins the Washington Workforce Association

The Washington Workforce Association (WWA), a non-profit, non-partisan membership organization of the state's 12 Workforce Development Councils (WCDs), has hired Kathy DiJulio as the association's Directory of Policy & Planning. DiJulio brings over 30 years' Washington workforce development experience to her new post.

Lean—Did You Know?

Did you know that Paul Akers' "2 Second Lean" concept—"fixing what bugs you" - can be applied anywhere, whether at work or at home? WCDD staff are inspired to make 2 Second Lean improvements everywhere. Give it a try! You can read Paul Akers' [book](#), or watch his short [videos](#), on his [2 Second Lean website](#).

WorkFirst Unit Launches Statewide Engagement Sessions

Armed with the new [WorkFirst Career Scope Handbook](#) and [WorkFirst Career Scope Training & Desk Manual](#), the Workforce and Career Development Division's central office WorkFirst Administrative Unit hit the road in October for the first of six day-long engagement sessions with WorkFirst supervisors and career coaches, as well as WorkSource Administrators. The first two sessions were held in Moses Lake (October 21st and 22nd), while the remaining sessions will be conducted in Lakewood (November 5th and 6th) and North Seattle (November 12th and 13th). The updated [WorkFirst Internal Controls Manual](#) is also covered during the sessions. All of the updated materials are available on the [Inside WorkFirst website](#), which has been updated to reflect current needs.

In other WorkFirst news, the successes that accrued from the DSHS-sponsored Lean event with Employment Security around WorkFirst job search participant "churn" were cited in [Governor Inslee's October 21 news release](#) on the ways in which Lean management is making state government more efficient to the benefit of program participants. That Lean event was also among several presented by DSHS at the Washington State Government Lean Transformation Conference in Tacoma on October 22.

WorkSource System Supports Apprenticeship

The enhanced focus on work-based activities by the U.S. Department of Labor under the Job-Driven agenda and implementation of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) will translate into increased emphasis on apprenticeship. Employment Security Department Commissioner Dale Peinecke, Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (WTECB) Director Eleni Papadakis, and State Board for Community & Technical Colleges (SBCTC) Director Marty Brown serve as ex-officio members of the Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council (WSATC). On behalf of the WorkSource system, WCDD prepares and submits [reports](#) on WorkSource support of apprenticeship and pre-apprenticeship activities that are made available to members and the general public at quarterly WSATC meetings. WSATC, by the way, is staffed by the Department of Labor and Industries, which oversees registered apprenticeship programs in Washington through a team of central office and regional apprenticeship coordinators. A lot of good information is available on the apprenticeship page on [L&I's website](#).

On a related note, the Office of Apprenticeship within the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration is hosting a two-part webinar titled "Partnerships that Deliver Results: The Workforce System and Registered Apprenticeship". Part 1 is scheduled for November 6th from 2:00-3:30 pm. Part 2 will be held on November 20th from 2:00-3:30 p.m. If interested, you can register through the [Workforce3One](#) website.

New Policy Guidance

[WIN 0063:
Services Changes](#)

November 2014 Featured Events

WorkFirst Career Scope Training

Nov. 5th, 6th, 12th, 13th
9:00am

[Register through LMS](#)

REQUIRED STU Orientation for SKIES Trainers

Nov. 3rd—7th
Seven web sessions
available

[Register through
Staff Development
Calendar](#)



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